

said agreement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) As no agreement has been executed between the Kandla Port Trust and the Government of Gujarat, violation of agreement does not arise.

Joint venture of LNG Transportation

1816. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the LNG transportation market is beginning to hot up with most of the leading domestic liners initiating talks with foreign shipping companies while lobbying against smaller companies;

(b) whether lobbying has brought angry protests from the other serious Indian contenders to the deal; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the protest with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) LNG Transportation is required to be done in special tankers. None of the Indian Shipping Companies either own LNG tankers or have experience in handling LNG transportation. In the emerging LNG transportation market, the various Indian shipping lines are, therefore, trying to acquire competencies to enter into LNG transportation field. This is being done by Indian Shipping lines by joining hands with foreign companies having expertise in LNG Transportation.

The Shipping Corporation of India Limited (SCI), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry has already entered into a joint venture with Mitsui OSK, Japan and Enron for Transportation of LNG for the Dabhol Power Company. Further, the SCI has also joined the consortium comprising Mitsui OSK lines and NYK and K line in order to bid for the Petronet LNG Transportation Project of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. It is learnt that private shipping companies have also entered into similar arrangements with foreign shipping companies. The exact details are not available in this Ministry.

[8th August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

Golden Quadrilateral scheme in Madhya Pradesh

1817. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of those areas in Madhya Pradesh which have been covered under Swam Chaturbhuj and corridor project;
- (b) the names of areas out of above where construction work has started;
- (c) the amount of funds allocated for each of them; and
- (d) what are the details regarding width of roads constructed under it and norms fixed and per Km. expenditure estimated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) There is no area in Madhya Pradesh on Swam Chaturbhuj. However, approximately 666 Km. stretches are falling on North-South and East-West Corridors. Areas covered are near Gwalior, Shivpuri, Madanpur, Lokhanadone and portion upto Maharashtra border along National Highway-7.

(b) and (c) The work of 4-laning from Km. 60.00 to Km. 70.00 of Agra-Gwalior Section of National Highway No.-3 has been started at an estimated cost of Rs. 28 crores. A budget provision of Rs. 10 crores has been made available for this work in the current financial year.

(d) It is proposed to widen existing 2-lane National Highways to 4-lane divided carriage-way along with service roads and other facilities as per the prescribed standards. The cost is worked out after detailed project preparation.

Declaration of Shimla-Rohru Highway as a National Highway

1818. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have received any proposal from State Government to include Shimla-Rohru State Highway into National Highway; and
- (b) if so, by when it will be implemented?